



Farm Labor

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C.

BAE

July 13, 1945

EMPLOYMENT CONTINUES UNDER '44 FARM WAGE RATES UP

As the number of hired workers employed on farms established a record low for the month, farm wage rates climbed to new peaks on July 1, the United States Department of Agriculture reported today. Farm employment was down 2 percent from a year earlier to 11,100,000, while average monthly wage rates were up by \$8.30 to \$89.60.

Yet, cold weather in April, May and the first part of June delayed farm work in most of the country. Corn cultivation, hay making, and wheat harvest around the first of this month, all required attention in the North Central States, substantially boosting the demand for the limited labor force. The peak spring labor need in the South Atlantic and South Central regions was generally past by July 1 with corn planted and cotton chopped. Cultivation and harvest of truck crops and the peach harvest were proceeding in good order in the Southeast, with the assistance of imported workers and prisoners of war in some areas.

Total farm employment on July 1 added up to 11,100,000 persons. Despite the usual seasonal increase from the low level of the previous month, employment was significantly below the 11,355,000 people working on July 1 a year ago, and the July 1935-39 average of 12,458,000. In New England, the Middle Atlantic, and East South Central States farm employment was a little higher than a year ago, but all other regions were down from last July 1 except the Pacific, which was unchanged.

The 2,544,000 hired workers on July 1 were almost 7 percent less than a year earlier. Decreases were largest in the Corn Belt, down about 15 percent. The West South Central Region was down 12 percent. Increases from a year ago in the Middle Atlantic States amounted to 7 percent; and for the Pacific region, 1 percent.

Family workers, numbering 8,556,000 persons were only about one percent less than the 8,623,000 working a year ago. Decreases from a year ago were recorded for all parts of the country except New England, the Middle Atlantic and the East South Central States, where increases were minor.

The index of farm wage rates rose to 351 percent of the 1910-14 average on July 1 from 342 on April 1 and 318 on July 1, 1944. Converted to a monthly equivalent, all wage rate classifications averaged \$89.60, up \$6.70 from April 1, 1945 and \$8.30 from July a year ago. Weighted average monthly rates ranged from \$49.30 per month in the East South Central States to \$156 per month on the Pacific Coast.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Wage rates for all categories were moderately higher than on April 1 in all parts of the country except South Atlantic and South Central States. In these two areas, wage rates appeared to be leveling off, with cotton acreage down this year, and a seasonal decrease in labor requirements with the crop laid by in many southern localities; monthly wages with board were down slightly.

The number of workers on New England farms was up 9,000 from a year ago to 277,000 on this July 1. Hired workers decreased from 105,000 a year ago to 102,000 while family workers were increased from 163,000 to 175,000. Rain in May and June delayed operations so that cultivation of row crops, spraying fruits and vegetables and making hay all demanded immediate attention around the first of this month.

The farm wage rate index for New England rose from 324 on July 1, 1944 to 341 on April 1, 1945 and to 347 on July 1, 1945. All wage rates were up, with the largest increases in daily rates, the most common method of paying extra help at this season.

Farm employment in the Middle Atlantic States increased seasonally from June 1 and totaled 734,000 persons on July 1, up 24,000 from a year ago. Family workers increased 7,000 and hired workers increased 17,000. Family employment on July 1 this year totaled 461,000 persons and hired employment 273,000 persons. Farmers were busy making hay, completing delayed planting operations, and cultivating row crops. Potato digging was underway in New Jersey and was expected to be in full swing in early July.

All types of wage rates advanced from the previous quarter. The wage rate index, at 337 percent of its 1910-14 average on July 1, was 10 points above April 1, and 31 points higher than a year earlier.

In the East North Central States, total farm employment on July 1 was 1,462,000. Contrary to the usual seasonal increase, this was practically the same as a month earlier. It was considerably less than the 1,515,000 on July 1 a year ago. Hired worker numbers dropped 14 percent from the 313,000 last July to 269,000. The family worker total of 1,193,000 was only a little less than the 1,202,000 a year earlier. Wet weather in April, May and early June had built up a backlog of some corn and soybean planting, corn cultivation in addition to current hay making and grain harvest operations.

Wage rates on July 1 were up from the previous quarter, with most of the increase in daily rates. The index of farm wage rates, at 310, was only 3 points above April 1, but 24 points higher than on July 1, 1944.

Workers employed on farms in the West North Central States totaled 1,725,000 on July 1, compared with 1,787,000 last year. Hired workers totaling 278,000 were 15 percent under a year ago. Family workers decreased only 1 percent, from 1,459,000 to 1,447,000. Wet cool weather delayed farm work during June. Hay making and cultivation of early-planted corn were general in the entire area. In Missouri about one-third of the corn acreage and over half of the soybean acreage had not been planted by July 1. In Kansas, wheat harvest was about half finished in the southern section and in full swing toward the north; potato harvest had started in the Kaw Valley.

Wage rates advanced from April 1, and were considerably higher than on July 1 last year. The farm wage rate index was 327 on the first of this month, 312 on April 1 this year, and 297 on July 1, 1944.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

In the South Atlantic States, the peak load of spring work was about past. Planting of most crops had been completed. Tobacco had been harvested in Florida and was nearly ready for harvest in Georgia. Georgia was picking a bumper peach crop, largely with local labor. Fewer persons were employed on July 1 than a year earlier, although seasonally more than a month earlier. Of the 2,147,000 persons working on the first of this month, 1,703,000 were family workers and 444,000 hired workers. On July 1, a year ago, 2,197,000 farm workers were employed; 1,735,000 family, and 462,000 hired.

Farm wage rates showed little change from April 1 to July 1. The index was 292 on April 1 and 294 on July 1. However, the index was up 33 points from a year ago.

Total farm employment in the East South Central States dropped from 1,830,000 workers on June 1 to 1,759,000 on July 1. Numbers on July 1 were about the same as a year earlier. Labor requirements decreased from last month in Alabama and Mississippi, with cotton chopping and crop cultivation nearly completed. Demand for labor was still heavy in Tennessee for cotton chopping and other field work and in Kentucky, for setting tobacco, making hay and threshing. The July 1 number of family workers, at 1,544,000, was less than the 1,604,000 on June 1, but above the 1,520,000 of July 1 a year ago. Hired worker numbers were below both last month and last year. There were 215,000 on July 1, 1945, compared with 226,000 on June 1, 1945 and 234,000 on July 1, 1944.

July 1 wage rates were unchanged from the previous quarter, with an index for combined rates of 263 for each period. The index on July 1, 1945, however, was 24 points above a year ago.

The West South Central States were getting along with about 5 percent fewer workers on July 1 than a year earlier. Total employment was 1,879,000 persons on July 1, compared with 1,911,000 on June 1, and 985,000 on July 1 a year ago. Family workers, at 1,441,000, were down 44,000 from July a year ago, and 47,000 from last month. Hired workers were 12 percent below a year ago. Hired workers dropped from 500,000 on July 1, 1944 to 423,000 on June 1, 1945 and increased only 15,000 to 438,000 on the first of this month. Farm labor in Arkansas was employed largely on cotton and fruit crops. In Oklahoma, wheat harvest and hay making were the major farm operations. Wheat harvest was nearly finished in Texas by July 1. Harvesting of grain sorghums in central counties and some cotton harvesting in the southern sections were other jobs requiring extra help in Texas this month. Wage rates on July 1 of this year were not much different than on April 1, but were up substantially from a year ago.

Farm employment in the Mountain States was down from both last month and last year. A total of 443,000 persons were employed on farms July 1, compared with 462,000 on June 1, and 465,000 on July 1 a year ago. On July 1, 1944, about 8,000 more family workers and 14,000 more hired workers were employed than on July 1 of this year. The main task in most of the area around July 1 was hay making. Sheep shearing and lambing were about finished. In Montana, Idaho, and Utah sugar beets were mostly thinned and some were being hoed. Mexican Nationals and war prisoners supplemented the usual sources of labor for beet work. The sweet cherry crop in Flathead and Lake Counties in Montana was about ready for picking. In southwestern Idaho, harvesting of peas, sweet cherries, and head lettuce, and thinning apples and peaches were underway.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm wage rates on July 1 in the Mountain States showed the largest increase from April 1 for any region. The wage rate index rose 26 points from April 1 to July 1, to reach 331 percent of the 1910-14 average. However, the increase from July 1, 1944 to April 1, 1945 was only 3 points, much smaller than for any other region.

Farm wage rates on July 1 in the Pacific States were the highest in the nation. The index of farm wage rates was 405 percent of the 1910-14 average, compared to 335 for the United States and 347 for New England, the next highest region. Wage rates averaged \$143 per month with board, \$182 per month without board, \$6.37 per day with board, and \$7.89 per day without board.

Total farm employment on the Pacific Coast, at 674,000 on July 1, the same as a year earlier, was up from 578,000 workers on June 1. Hired workers increased 38 percent, from 263,000 on June 1 to 364,000 on July 1, 1945. This was 5,000 more than a year earlier. Family workers, at 310,000 were 5,000 less than a month ago and a year ago.

The major farm job in Washington around the first of July was hay making. However many other crops were receiving attention. Cherries and apricots were being picked and apples and peaches being thinned and sprayed. Truck crop and small fruit harvest was underway. Weeding sugar beets, harvesting potatoes and training hops were additional farm jobs. Farm jobs in California ranged from cultivation of row crops, harvest of truck crops and fruit, to cotton chopping and sugar beet thinning.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm wage rates and related data, United States, July 1,
1945, with comparisons

	: Annual : average : 1910-14	: Annual : average : 1935-39	: July: 1, 1944	: April 1, 1945	: July 1, 1945
FARM WAGE RATES					
Per month, with board.....	\$22.09	\$26.01	\$77.79	\$78.60	\$85.80
Per month, without board.....	29.18	34.17	89.54	92.70	99.00
Per day, with board.....	1.16	1.23	3.58	3.56	3.86
Per day, without board.....	1.42	1.50	4.06	4.12	4.48
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES					
Unadjusted.....	100	118	328	335	362
Adjusted for seasonal variation:	100	118	318	342	351
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES BY REGIONS:					
New England.....	100	143	324	341	347
Middle Atlantic.....	100	129	306	327	337
East North Central.....	100	115	286	307	310
West North Central.....	100	98	297	312	327
South Atlantic.....	100	111	261	292	294
East South Central.....	100	101	239	263	263
West South Central.....	100	102	291	319	321
Mountain.....	100	106	302	305	331
Pacific.....	100	129	381	387	405
FARM EMPLOYMENT (thousands of persons)					
Total.....	12,052	10,920	11,355	8,982	11,100
Family labor.....	9,160	8,353	8,623	7,322	8,556
Hired labor.....	2,892	2,567	2,732	1,660	2,544
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES					
Adjusted for seasonal variation:					
Total.....	100	91	82	81	80
Family labor.....	100	91	84	83	83
Hired labor.....	100	89	74	73	69
RELATED INDEXES					
Prices received by farmers ^{1/} :	100	107	192	200	2/206
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates.....	100	91	59	60	57
Average weekly factory earnings ^{3/} :	100	200	412	427	---

^{1/} Average of the 15th of the given and the 15th of the previous month.

^{2/} June 15, 1945 - latest data available.

^{3/} Factory pay roll per employed workers; average of all weeks during the designated month.

Based on reports from 17,684 farmers.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm employment, United States and geographic division
July 1, 1945 with comparisons

TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT

Geographic division	July 1	June 1,	July 1,	June 1,	July 1,
	average	1944	1944	1945	1945
	1935-39	1944	1944	1945	1945
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's
United States.....	12,458	11,285	11,355	10,994	11,100
New England.....	282	250	268	254	277
Middle Atlantic....	723	613	710	626	734
East North Central..	1,660	1,499	1,515	1,458	1,462
West North Central..	1,909	1,707	1,787	1,654	1,725
South Atlantic.....	2,511	2,285	2,197	2,221	2,147
East South Central..	2,048	1,924	1,754	1,830	1,759
West South Central..	2,218	1,928	1,985	1,911	1,879
Mountain.....	509	476	465	462	443
Pacific.....	598	603	674	578	674

FAMILY WORKERS ^{1/}

United States.....	9,320	8,845	8,623	8,637	8,556
New England.....	175	168	163	168	175
Middle Atlantic....	458	417	454	408	461
East North Central..	1,248	1,217	1,202	1,208	1,193
West North Central..	1,478	1,428	1,459	1,409	1,447
South Atlantic.....	1,907	1,785	1,735	1,728	1,703
East South Central..	1,755	1,681	1,520	1,604	1,544
West South Central..	1,657	1,503	1,485	1,488	1,441
Mountain.....	315	328	290	309	282
Pacific.....	327	318	315	315	310

HIRED WORKERS

United States.....	3,138	2,440	2,732	2,357	2,544
New England.....	107	82	105	86	102
Middle Atlantic....	265	196	256	218	273
East North Central..	412	282	313	250	269
West North Central..	431	279	328	245	278
South Atlantic.....	604	500	462	493	444
East South Central..	293	243	234	226	215
West South Central..	561	425	500	423	438
Mountain.....	194	148	175	153	161
Pacific.....	271	285	359	263	364

^{1/} Including farm operators and members of their families working without wages.

Based on reports from 17,684 farmers who reported for their own farms the number of family and hired workers doing 2 or more days of work during the week of inquiry.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm employment: Hired, family and total labor, United States,
specified annual averages and by months, January 1944 to July 1945 1/

Year and month	Total farm employment 1,000's	Family workers 2/ 1,000's	Hired workers 1,000's
1910-14 average	12,052	9,160	2,892
1935-39 average	10,920	8,353	2,567
1939 average	10,740	8,145	2,595
1940 average	10,585	8,019	2,566
1941 average	10,361	7,829	2,532
1942 average	10,397	7,855	2,542
1943	10,263	7,857	2,406
1944 average	10,037	7,810	2,227
January 1	8,202	6,622	1,580
February 1	8,383	6,702	1,681
March 1	8,562	6,935	1,627
April 1	9,080	7,401	1,679
May 1	10,068	8,079	1,989
June 1	11,285	8,845	2,440
July 1	11,355	8,623	2,732
August 1	10,608	7,914	2,694
September 1	11,040	8,223	2,817
October 1	11,839	8,928	2,911
November 1	10,690	8,168	2,522
December 1	9,337	7,289	2,048
1945 average	---	---	---
January 1	8,005	6,571	1,434
February 1	8,051	6,557	1,494
March 1	8,414	6,894	1,520
April 1	8,982	7,322	1,660
May 1	10,017	8,153	1,864
June 1	10,994	8,637	2,357
July 1	11,100	8,556	2,544

Annual averages are straight averages of first of month employment estimates.

Includes farm operators and members of their families working without wages.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm wage rates, by geographic divisions, July 1, 1945
with comparisons

Geographic division	Annual average 1910-14 Dollars	April 1, 1944 Dollars	July 1, 1944 Dollars	April 1, 1945 Dollars	July 1, 1945 Dollars
FARM WAGE RATES					
PER MONTH WITH BOARD					
New England.....	24.18	78.49	80.73	85.76	86.40
Middle Atlantic.....	22.25	66.72	70.09	74.82	78.00
East North Central.....	23.75	65.16	67.98	73.85	74.20
West North Central.....	26.32	72.84	81.18	86.17	89.90
South Atlantic.....	14.62	36.88	38.55	43.63	43.90
East South Central.....	14.71	34.26	35.28	39.04	39.50
West South Central.....	17.35	48.26	53.27	57.90	60.30
Mountain.....	32.48	87.29	101.23	98.53	111.00
Pacific.....	33.45	126.78	134.88	137.73	143.00
PER MONTH WITHOUT BOARD					
New England.....	37.70	115.00	118.56	125.62	126.00
Middle Atlantic.....	33.41	96.05	100.66	108.46	110.00
East North Central.....	32.80	88.80	92.00	101.22	100.00
West North Central.....	36.86	93.75	101.76	110.54	115.00
South Atlantic.....	20.97	51.51	53.04	59.43	59.40
East South Central.....	20.80	46.92	49.76	54.22	53.50
West South Central.....	24.93	68.84	71.83	81.07	80.10
Mountain.....	46.42	118.18	129.90	134.54	143.00
Pacific.....	48.16	163.35	169.94	177.68	182.00
PER DAY WITH BOARD					
New England.....	1.27	3.73	4.15	4.00	4.36
Middle Atlantic.....	1.24	3.62	3.80	3.97	4.14
East North Central.....	1.31	3.49	3.82	3.95	4.06
West North Central.....	1.46	3.65	4.30	4.31	4.60
South Atlantic.....	.81	2.02	2.16	2.37	2.44
East South Central.....	.81	1.77	1.92	2.05	2.15
West South Central.....	.98	2.51	3.03	3.12	3.16
Mountain.....	1.50	4.04	4.54	4.62	5.00
Pacific.....	1.49	5.71	6.10	6.04	6.37
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD					
New England.....	1.71	4.89	5.13	5.25	5.50
Middle Atlantic.....	1.63	4.58	4.71	4.90	5.11
East North Central.....	1.68	4.33	4.67	4.85	4.95
West North Central.....	1.88	4.72	5.19	5.39	5.64
South Atlantic.....	1.05	2.55	2.64	2.99	3.01
East South Central.....	1.05	2.27	2.41	2.69	2.70
West South Central.....	1.25	3.06	3.39	3.74	3.74
Mountain.....	2.05	4.80	5.63	5.50	5.97
Pacific.....	2.06	6.91	7.39	7.32	7.89

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm wage rates, by states, July 1, 1944, July 1, 1945

State	Per month		Per month		Per day		Per day	
	with board		without board		with board		without board	
	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Maine	86.50	92.00	123.00	128.00	4.70	4.80	5.60	5.90
N.H.	73.00	86.00	115.00	123.00	3.95	4.40	5.00	5.40
Vt.	76.50	82.00	104.00	120.00	3.85	4.30	5.00	5.50
Mass.	81.00	86.25	123.00	132.00	4.05	4.20	5.00	5.40
R.I.	86.00	85.75	124.00	130.00	4.10	4.20	5.20	5.40
Conn.	78.75	85.75	120.00	124.00	4.00	4.15	4.95	5.20
N.Y.	76.75	85.75	108.00	118.00	4.10	4.30	5.00	5.40
N.J.	83.00	87.50	119.00	128.00	4.20	4.65	5.10	5.45
Pa.	56.75	64.00	84.25	93.25	3.30	3.70	4.15	4.60
Ohio	55.75	62.25	79.50	85.50	3.50	3.70	4.40	4.45
Ind.	62.50	68.25	84.50	92.00	3.50	3.95	4.25	4.80
Ill.	75.50	82.50	94.50	106.00	4.15	4.40	4.95	5.20
Mich.	70.75	77.75	99.75	108.00	4.05	4.30	5.00	5.25
Wis.	73.75	79.50	101.00	109.00	3.85	4.05	4.75	5.10
Minn.	84.00	90.75	106.00	120.00	4.20	4.65	5.30	5.80
Iowa	88.75	98.50	108.00	121.00	4.85	5.10	5.70	6.00
Mo.	57.00	64.75	73.00	82.50	3.05	3.25	3.80	4.00
N.Dak.	100.00	110.00	124.00	140.00	4.75	5.20	5.80	6.80
S.Dak.	91.25	96.25	115.00	127.00	4.40	4.80	5.20	6.00
Nebr.	82.50	93.25	105.00	118.00	4.45	4.80	5.30	5.90
Kans.	74.50	84.00	96.75	109.00	4.80	4.90	5.50	6.00
Del.	68.50	68.50	91.00	92.00	4.25	4.50	4.90	5.50
Md.	57.50	65.75	76.00	88.00	3.65	3.80	4.45	4.65
Va.	43.75	50.25	59.25	68.00	2.60	2.90	3.15	3.40
W. Va.	44.50	49.00	61.75	70.00	2.30	2.55	3.00	3.40
N.C.	42.00	45.25	55.75	61.50	2.35	2.75	2.70	3.20
S.C.	28.25	33.00	41.25	46.00	1.55	1.70	1.90	2.20
Ga.	31.25	36.25	44.25	48.00	1.80	2.00	2.15	2.50
Fla.	50.00	58.00	70.00	80.00	2.40	3.10	3.40	4.10
Ky.	44.00	49.00	59.00	67.00	2.20	2.50	2.95	3.10
Tenn.	36.25	41.00	50.50	54.75	1.85	2.10	2.35	2.60
Ala.	35.50	35.50	48.50	48.00	1.90	2.00	2.20	2.60
Miss.	32.00	35.00	44.75	48.00	1.80	2.05	2.30	2.55
Ark.	40.75	46.25	56.00	61.25	2.10	2.50	2.60	3.00
La.	35.50	40.00	50.25	56.00	2.05	2.30	2.40	2.70
Okla.	56.75	67.50	78.00	92.75	3.90	3.90	4.15	4.85
Tex.	60.75	72.00	80.75	94.50	3.40	3.65	3.75	4.25
Mont.	113.00	125.00	136.00	155.00	5.20	5.70	6.30	6.70
Idaho	116.00	140.00	150.00	177.00	5.30	6.00	6.40	7.10
Wyo.	100.00	111.00	136.00	143.00	4.25	4.80	5.30	5.90
Colo.	88.00	99.50	117.00	131.00	4.15	4.70	5.30	5.70
N. Mex.	74.00	76.00	95.00	102.00	3.70	4.20	4.25	4.50
Ariz.	98.00	105.00	135.00	142.00	4.00	4.30	5.10	5.10
Utah	106.00	115.00	133.00	145.00	4.30	4.80	5.20	5.60
Nev.	110.00	120.00	135.00	150.00	4.90	5.00	6.00	6.00
Wash.	135.00	145.00	176.00	195.00	6.50	6.60	7.90	8.10
Oreg.	128.00	141.00	163.00	172.00	5.90	6.30	6.80	7.20
Calif.	136.00	142.00	169.00	179.00	6.00	6.30	7.30	7.80
U. S.	77.79	85.80	89.54	99.00	3.58	3.86	4.06	4.48

Preliminary Results From Survey of Farm Wage Rates
in Special Crop Areas of New Jersey

New Jersey Asparagus: Workers harvesting asparagus in the principal producing areas of New Jersey were paid average rates of 3.0 cents per pound in Cumberland County and 2.6 cents per pound in Gloucester County during the week ended May 12, 1945. These preliminary results are from a special enumerative sample survey, made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics during an active week of the asparagus cutting season. Wage information was obtained on 350 asparagus cutters, 200 in Gloucester County and 150 in Cumberland County. Over half of the workers were paid by the pound. Nearly all of the Cumberland County asparagus is produced for canning, and payment by the pound for cutting is the predominant method for cannery asparagus. Workers harvesting asparagus for the fresh market in Gloucester County were commonly paid by the crate, at an average rate of about \$1.15 for a 30-pound crate. This rate, however, includes cutting, grading and boxing the asparagus in crates ready for shipment. Nearly a third of the asparagus harvesters surveyed in Gloucester County were paid by the crate.

Over a fourth of all the asparagus workers in these two counties were women. About half of the cutters in Cumberland County and a third of the asparagus workers in Gloucester County were males from 18 to 44 years old. Asparagus harvesters worked on the reporting farms an average of 6.7 hours per day in Gloucester County and 6.1 hours in Cumberland County. The additional work involved in grading, packaging and boxing asparagus for the fresh market in Gloucester County largely accounts for the difference between the two counties in average length of work-day.

New Jersey Strawberries: An enumerative sample survey of 340 strawberry pickers in Cumberland County, New Jersey was made during the week ended May 26, 1945. All of these workers were paid on a piece rate basis, "per quart", with an average rate of 5.6 cents per quart. Because of weather conditions, the Cumberland County strawberry production was cut in about half this season. Strawberry pickers averaged 4.5 hours per day and 2.8 days per week on the reporting farms. Therefore, even though the workers averaged nearly 20 boxes picked per hour, their average daily earnings were only \$4.90. The workers on the reporting farms were predominantly Negroes. Nearly 40 percent of the workers were men, aged 18-44, and less than 10 percent of the workers were boys or girls under 18.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

FOREIGN WORKERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE AS OF JUNE 1945

STATE	: PRISONERS:				Total	
	MEXICANS 1/	JAMAICANS 1/	BAHAMAINS 1/	NEWFOUNDLANDERS 1/		OF WAR 2/
Maine :		76		99	175	
N.H. :		36		77	113	
Vt. :				165	165	
Mass. :		358		77	185	620
R.I. :				17	17	
Conn. :		2,564		116		2,680
N.Y. :		1,242		332	761	2,335
N.J. :		1,579		84	686	2,349
Pa. :		329		87	22	438
Ohio :		1,177			271	1,448
Ind. :	205	477	3		900	1,585
Ill. :	531	910	27		830	2,298
Mich. :	2,422	519			747	3,689
Wis. :	630	644	40		661	1,975
Minn. :	1,639		8		1,291	2,938
Iowa :	99	39			1,102	1,246
Mo. :		144			945	1,089
N.Dak. :	1,050					1,050
S.Dak. :	369					769
Nebr. :	1,648				3,040	4,688
Kans. :	237	244			1,323	1,804
Del. :		81	303	13	369	766
Md. :		415	779	23	1,815	3,032
Va. :			888		1,023	1,911
W. Va. :					55	55
N. C. :					841	841
S. C. :					1,009	1,009
Ga. :			597		1,767	2,364
Fla. :		2,144	2,803		540	5,487
Ky. :					715	715
Tenn. :					1,024	1,024
Ala. :					239	239
Miss. :					2,949	2,949
Ark. :					8,198	8,198
La. :					4,617	4,617
Okla. :					689	689
Tex. :					3,402	3,402
Mont. :	3,795	221			3,824	7,840
Idaho :	3,514				2,100	5,614
Wyo. :	936	108			2,290	3,334
Colo. :	2,682	1,111			6,789	10,582
N. Mex. :					1,579	1,579
Ariz. :	1,406	5			1,324	2,735
Utah. :	922				1,260	2,182
Nev. :	385					385
Wash. :	3,636				553	4,189
Oreg. :	2,726	50			765	3,541
Calif. :	26,726	1,419			8,120	36,265
Totals:	55,558	15,892	5,448	1,090	70,626	148,614

1/ As of June 23, data provided by Requirements and Certification Division, Program Branch, Office of Labor, W. F. A.

2/ As of June 21, data provided by Extension Service, War Food Administration, Washington, D. C.

IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
Text	1-4
Farm Wage Rate Indexes and Related Data, U.S., July 1, 1945	5
Farm Employment, U.S. and Geographic Divisions, July 1, 1945 With Comparisons	6
Farm Employment, United States, Number of Workers, Family, Hired and Total, Specified Annual Averages and by Months, January 1944-July 1945	7
Farm Wage Rates, by Geographic Divisions, July 1, 1945, with Comparisons	8
Farm Wage Rates, by States, July 1, 1944 and July 1, 1945	9
Special Area Surveys	10
Foreign Workers and Prisoners of War Employed in Agriculture	11
Index	12